

## REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of June 25, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 1 - 9 were presented with the application as filed for examination. As a result of the examination, claims 1, 2 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) by Douba; claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) by JP 10-277,791; and claims 1 - 9 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) by Futamura et al.

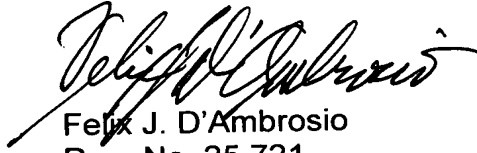
To better define the invention over the art of record, claim 1 has been amended to clearly recite the features shown in Fig. 3. Note the recitation of "a pair of ball screws", and that they "are disposed in a state wherein they are opposed to each other inside the pressing member.....," that is, when viewed in plan view. Note the introduction of the "hydraulic cylinder" in claim 1 which has "a knockout pin." The added structure to claim 1 is not found in Douba nor in JP 10-277,791.

The press as defined in claims 1 - 3, 5 and 9 is compact and yet capable to generating large output pressing forces. In addition, the finished workpiece can be rapidly removed by the use of the knockout pin.

As to the Futamura et al reference, it is noted that its filing date is February 13, 2003, whereas the filing date of the present application is its PCT date of October 24, 2002. Accordingly, the Futamura reference cannot be applied.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 1 - 3, 5 and 9 allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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